

Message Text

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62

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SAB-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2859

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E.O. 11652: N/A DECON 2-12-76

TAGS: PFOR, PLO, SA

SUBJECT: ABU IYAD'S STATEMENT RE SAUDI ARABIA

REF: JIDDA 1024

1. IN SERIES OF RECENT PUBLIC APPEARANCES HERE IN WHICH HE HAS BITTERLY CRITICIZED -CERTAIN ARAB REGIMES" FOR COOPERATING WITH US, JORDAN AND ISRAEL IN ONGOING EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF ME COMFLICT (SEE INTER ALIA PARA 2 OUR 1294 AND A-24 OF FEB 7), FATAH'S SALAH KHALAF (ABU IYAD) ADDRESSED VISITING GROUPS OF PALESTINIAN STUDENTS FROM KUWAIT UNIVERISTY ON JAN 25. HE WAS QUOTED BY LEFTIST PRO-IRAQI DAILY BEIRUT ON JAN 27 AS HAVING STATED--IN REPLY TO QUESTION RE SAUDI POLICY--THAT "ALL SAUDIS ARE INTERESTED IN IS EXPULSION OF SOVS FROM EGYPT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF IMPERIALIST DESIGNS". KHALAF ALSO CLAIMED, ACCORDING TO BEIRUT, THAT VALUE OF CADILLACS OWNED BY AL SAUD FAMILY ALONE IS ENOUGH TO RAISE AND ARM "FIVE BATTALIONS" AND COMPLAINED THAT PLO HAS RECEIVED "VERY LITTLE" SO FAR OF THE DOLS 50 MILLION ALLEGEDLY PLEDGED BY VARIOUS ARAB GOVTS FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND FORTIFICATION OF REFUGEE CAMPS IN LEBANON. KHALAF REPORTEDLY ENDED HIS REMARKS WITH BITTER ALLUSION TO "THOSE WHO SIT ON MOUNTAINS OF GOLD".

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2. ANOTHER LEFTIST DAILY AL LIWA, ALSO ON JAN 27 QUOTED KHALAF

...AS HAVING RESPONDED TO QUERIES RE PROSPECT OF AN AMERICAN
MILITARY TAKEOVER OF ARAB OILFIELDS BY TELLING THEM THAT MOST
ARAB COUNTRIES POSSESSING OILFIELDS WERE ALREADY RULED BY
"REGIMES SUBSERVIENT TO AMERICA" AND THAT OILFIELDS IN QUESTION
WERE THEREFORE ALREADY UNDER US "OCCUPATION". ACCORDING TO
LIWA, ABU IYAD CLAIMED SUCH OILFIELDS ARE SURROUNDED BY
MISSILE NETWORKS MANNED BY AMERICAN TECHNICIANS
AND THAT PURPOSE OF US "THREATS" WAS TO PROVIDE CERTAIN ARAB
REGIMES TO JUSTIFY THIS "OCCUPATION".
GODLEY

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